

MEDAL OF HONOR MEN

Montpelier Citizens Honored
For Conspicuous Gallantry
in Battle

SOME CIVIL WAR HEROES

Capt. J. O. Livingstone, D. P. Clarke
and Wallace W. Noyes, Survivors
Of This Gallant Band.

Although Montpelier was not settled until after the Revolution and had no part in the history of that war, its military record has been of the highest, from the time when a company of men was hastily gathered at the summons of Gen. Parley Davis for the battle of Plattsburgh down to the time of the little disturbance with Spain. It is not therefore very remarkable that five Montpelier soldiers should have been awarded the medal of honor in recognition of distinguished services, though it is doubtful if another town of the state can be found having among its citizens so many men who have been accorded that recognition.

In July, 1862, Congress passed an act authorizing the President to confer a medal of honor on such private and non-commissioned officers "as shall most distinguish themselves by their gallantry in action and other soldier-like qualities during the present insurrection." In 1863 the act was extended to apply to commissioned officers and to future wars as well.

The medals thus authorized have not been indiscriminately granted, but every case where it was recommended that one be bestowed has been carefully scrutinized and examined, so that they are in truth medals of honor and the men who wear them are recognized as of more than ordinary bravery and soldier-like qualities. The number of them is limited and the wearer of the medal is as proud of it, and with as good right as a British soldier is of the Victoria Cross.

One major general or volunteers, three captains and one private in Montpelier received these decorations, and the private and two of the captains are still living to wear them. Gen. Stephen Thomas and Capt. John W. Clark have passed over the river, but Dayton P. Clarke, J. O. Livingstone and Wallace W. Noyes remain. The latter, 63 years of age, is still active, and will soon be engaged in remodeling the Blanchard Opera House. Capt. Clarke is hearty and vigorous and attends to business at his paint shop every day. Capt. Livingstone has retired from the practice of law and from farming, but retains his physical vigor and mental activity.

Wallace W. Noyes.

Wallace W. Noyes was a beardless boy of 18 when he won his medal at Spotsylvania, May 12, 1864. The details of that battle and the work of the Vermont troops have been set forth in histories of the war, and Noyes' brave deed is mentioned in Benedict's History of Vermont in the Civil War. The hero does not regard it as a very heroic achievement, and has sometimes neglected to wear his medal, alleging as a reason that there were plenty of men as brave as he but that he happened to achieve recognition. It is believed to be the fact, however, that he was the only private soldier from Vermont who was thus honored.

"We had been fighting eight hours," says Mr. Noyes. "We had charged up to the works and were lying down in front of them. We were flat on our faces. Occasionally a Reb would poke a gun over the works and shoot. Lying there on our faces we would poke away the muzzle of the gun so the bullet would not hit us."

"About twenty feet to my right some rebel pushed out some kind of a rag stuck on a bayonet and the men thought they wanted to surrender. One of them leaned over the works and said 'all right, come over boys,' and just then a bullet went through his head. I was looking right at the Rebels laughing. They had had a trick on the Yankees. I

was lying beside George Woodry, and I said: 'Damn them! I'll pay 'em for that.'"

"How?" says George.

"You get all the guns together you can and see that they're loaded. There were plenty of guns dropped by fellows that had been killed or wounded."

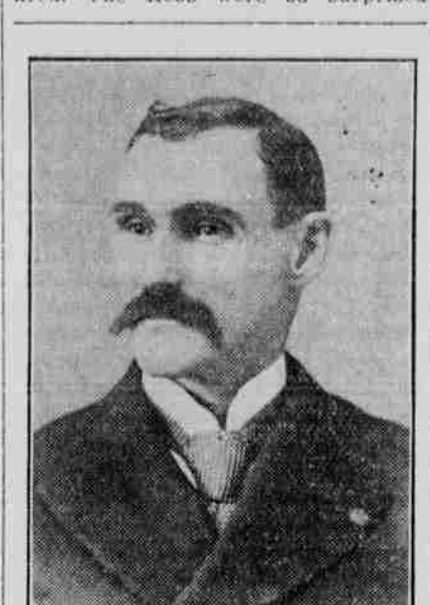
"Woodry says 'I know what you want to do, but you shan't do it. You'll be killed in a second.'"

"Johnny Grant, on the other side of me begged me not to try it."

"I said 'Boys, you help me. I may be killed but I'll punish some of them.'"

"They got some guns together but it seemed as if they wouldn't let me get up, but I said 'Just hand the guns to me, stock up, as fast as I fire.'"

"Then I jumped up and fired my gun and threw it down and they handed me another, and kept handing them up. I don't know how many shots I fired. The Rebs were so surprised



WALLACE W. NOYES.

that they didn't make a move. They just stared at me. I know I must have got some of them. Just before I quit one man right in front of me pointed his gun straight up and fired. The bullet didn't hit me but it filled my face full of powder and blew off my cap. Then I thought I'd jump down."

"After I got down safe Johnny Grant was bound to try it. I told him no one else could do it and live, and the Rebs wouldn't be surprised that way a second time. But we couldn't persuade him. He climbed up and fired just one shot when a bullet struck him in the head and he fell. I grabbed him by the legs and pulled him down on our side, but he was dead."

"No," said Mr. Noyes, "I wasn't excited. I was just as cool as I am now, but I was boiling over mad at the way they laughed at fooling the Yankees and shooting one of our men by a trick."

"They used to say that I was a soldier who never was afraid, but I always told 'em that wasn't so. 'I was just as much afraid as the rest of you,' I told them, 'but I was a good deal more afraid you'd find out how scared I was.'"

One may understand how desperate was the undertaking from the fact that a tree more than ten inches in diameter was cut down by the storm of bullets flying over the works on that terrible day. Yet Mr. Noyes says of his daring exploit: "I don't claim any credit for it. It was nothing but foolishness, but I was so mad I couldn't help it."

Every one knows who has read the history of the war that the battle of Spotsylvania was bloody and hard fought, and the Vermont troops were in the "bloody angle" where the fighting was the thickest and fiercest. The Second, Third and Fifth Regiments were along the outer face of the west angle of the works, and Gen. L. A. Grant, who was in command of the brigade, says:

"It was literally a hand to hand fight. Nothing but the piled up logs of the breastworks separated the combatants. Our men would reach over the logs and fire into the faces of the enemy and stab them with their bayonets. Many were shot and stabbed through crevices in the logs."

Capt. Dayton P. Clarke.

Wallace Noyes was in the ranks of Company F of the Second Regiment, which was in the very hottest of the fighting. The regiment that day

was in command of Capt. Dayton P. Clarke. When they broke camp five days before there were two field officers and eight captains so that Capt. Clarke was the ninth officer in rank. On the day of the battle Lieut. (afterward Governor) S. E. Pingree, was detailed to other service and Capt. Clarke was the ranking officer of the regiment, all the others having been killed or disabled. He handled his command with consummate coolness, and his act in charging up to the breastworks was one involving more than ordinary personal bravery.

In his official report, which is to be found in the government records of the war, Gen. Grant says:

"Thanks are due to the regimental commanders heretofore named and to Capt. Dayton P. Clarke, Second Vermont, who distinguished himself in command of his regiment in the desperate hand to hand fight of May 12, Lieut. Col. S. E. Pingree being then in command of the picket line on the right."

When any one asks Capt. Clarke about the affair he says:

"O yes, yes, I just happened to be in command that day because there was nobody else to take command. No, I didn't do anything particular. I just happened to be in command."

But that is not the way his comrades or his superiors looked at it.

Two trees, one on each side of the breastworks, were cut down by the bullets that day. One of them was an oak 23 inches in diameter. Captain Clarke and several of the veterans of Montpelier had come from one of those trees.

"I never liked Capt. Clarke at first," says Wallace Noyes, "but after I saw him in a fight I made up my mind he was all right and I was willing to let him right a long after that."

The Captain was a good disciplinarian and was entirely able to enforce discipline. One of the stories told of him is this: Soon after he gained his company one of the men, who is still living in this State, procured somewhere a canteen of liquor and placed himself outside the most of it, a proceeding that led him to make some disturbance in the company street and to proclaim himself the wall-eyed terror of the universe. This was reported to Capt. Clarke with the suggestion that he call out the guard. But the Captain thought he could take care of a drunken private without calling out the guard, so he walked out and ordered the man to his tent. The man was undecided about obeying. The Captain seized him by the collar, dragged him to his tent, threw back the flap with one hand and with the other threw him bodily into the tent. He landed in the fireplace.

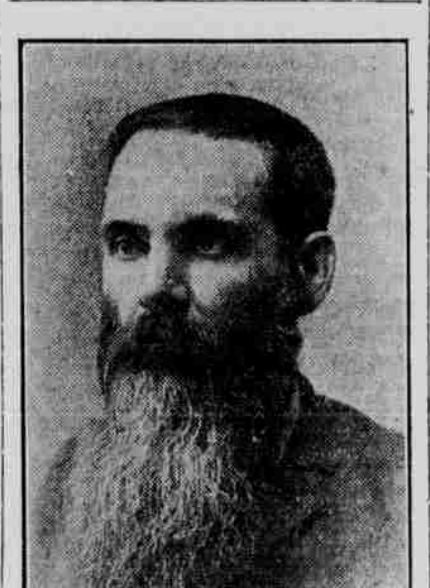
Dragging himself out he crawled to his bunk, sat there blinking a few minutes, and then solemnly announced: "The capen's a damn good man."

He remembers the incident and whenever he meets any members of the old company remarks that "the Capen's a damn good man."

J. O. Livingstone.

J. O. Livingstone earned his honors three months earlier, February 3, 1864, his birthday. He was in the Ninth Vermont, and was in command of Company G, and was Adjutant of the regiment under Stannard, Andrus and Barney. A railroad guard of 300 men,

when the parents and the youngest boy were away the Indians attacked the house and killed all but the daughter whom they carried away a captive into Canada. The boy thus fortunately spared was the ancestor of a long line of Livingstones. At the time of the Revolution, when Billerica had a population of 1300 inhabitants, seven Livingstones enlisted in the patriot forces. The great grandfather of J. O. served seven years in the Revolutionary army. They came later to Vermont and the great grandfather and grandfather built Peacham Academy. Members of the family have been in every war this country has engaged in since they came to this country and Capt. Livingstone is entitled to membership in the Order of the Cincinnati.



DAYTON P. CLARKE.

out between Newport and Newburn, N. C., was attacked by a Confederate force of 1300. The fighting had been going on all day and it became evident that it would be necessary to retire, or as Capt. Livingstone put it to Col. Barney: "We've got to get out of here in a hurry."

When he was authorized to use his discretion in planning the retreat Capt. Livingstone went to T. S. Peck of Burlington and said "Peck, you have the right of line. Can you burn the county road bridge?"

"What about the railroad bridge?" inquired Peck.

"I'll take care of that."

There was no further conversation. Capt. Peck began moving his men across the highway bridge and Capt. Livingstone started his command across the railroad bridge. When he set the drummer boy on his horse and started him across the narrow walk the little fellow was afraid the horse would throw him in the river. "Go on," said the captain, "you might just as well be drowned as to be shot on dry land." The drummer rode across in safety.

The men were under fire all the time, but they got safely across, but before doing so they had knocked the heads out of several barrels of whiskey and rolled barrels of raw turpentine on the railroad bridge. Capt. Livingstone remained behind and was just lighting a match to set the turpentine on fire when a bullet struck him

on the left hand and glancing cut off part of his shoulder strap. The only real annoyance it caused was in making him drop the match so he had to delay to light another. The second was applied and the bridge was burned. Capt. Peck also succeeded in burning the highway bridge and there was no other place for miles where the Confederates could effect a crossing, as the river there is very deep. It was for his gallantry in thus withdrawing his men and destroying the means of communication under fire that he was awarded the medal of honor, and Capt. Peck was recognized in a similar manner for his services at the highway bridge a short distance above.

A new medal of honor has been designed, to take the place of those originally issued, but Capt. Livingstone refuses to exchange. He is willing to accept the new one but will not part with the old one. Two other relics of his military service that he prizes highly are a sabre given by his company and a gold watch from the officers of the regiment.

The Livingstones are a fighting family. They are of Scotch origin and the African explorer belonged to one branch of the family. Some of them who fought for Charles Stuart against Cromwell were taken prisoners and sent to the American colonies as redemptionists. They were landed at Boston and served their term of service at Billerica. The family narrowly escaped annihilation there at the hands of the Indians. In the family of this particular ancestor were five sons and a daughter and Mrs. Livingstone's mother. One day



CAPT. J. O. LIVINGSTONE.

when the parents and the youngest boy were away the Indians attacked the house and killed all but the daughter whom they carried away a captive into Canada. The boy thus fortunately spared was the ancestor of a long line of Livingstones. At the time of the Revolution, when Billerica had a population of 1300 inhabitants, seven Livingstones enlisted in the patriot forces. The great grandfather of J. O. served seven years in the Revolutionary army. They came later to Vermont and the great grandfather and grandfather built Peacham Academy. Members of the family have been in every war this country has engaged in since they came to this country and Capt. Livingstone is entitled to membership in the Order of the Cincinnati.

Among the exploits of his military career which Capt. Livingstone recalls is the capture of Belle Boyd, the Confederate spy. He had learned that she was in the vicinity when the regiment was at Winchester, and was allowed to take a detail and go after her one night. The house where she was staying was surrounded and there was nothing for the spy to do but to surrender which she did gracefully. "She behaved like a perfect lady," he says. She was turned over to the officer in command and he had no voice in determining what should be done with her.

Here in brief is an account of how three Montpelier men still living won recognition for high soldierly qualities and distinguished bravery. They are all modest in speaking of their exploits. If they would talk more freely no doubt a more interesting account might be written. Every one says there were other men as brave as he and every one likes to call attention to some man who appears to have been ignored. The days that separate us from that period have grown long, the ranks are growing thin, but the Journal will try to rescue, for the benefit of the present generation, the record of some of these brave men from obscurity.

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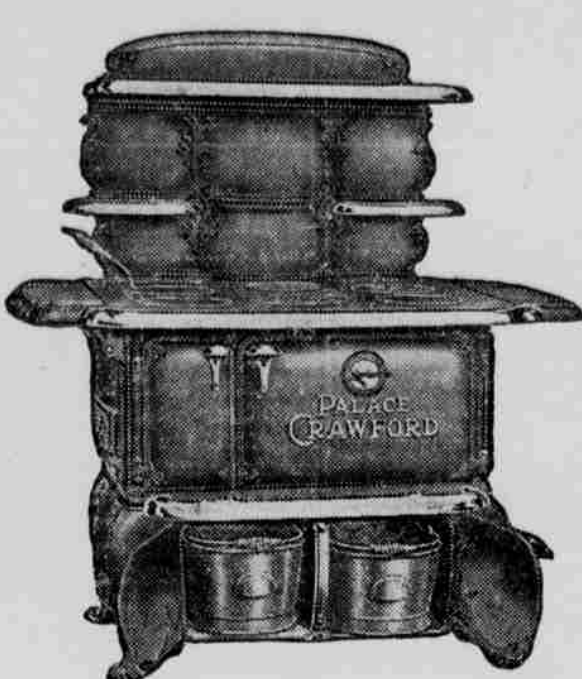
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DAWLEY NOMINATED

Present Mayor Won Out In Hottest
Caucus In Years After Bitter
Fight.

With over a thousand citizens attending the caucus in the Armory last night and after three ballots had been taken, Frank R. Dawley, the present Mayor of Montpelier, was renominated for the position of which he is now the incumbent on the third ballot, by a small majority, after two candidates who had shown considerable strength on the first two ballots had withdrawn. The caucus was pronounced one of the most enthusiastic and the best attended that has been held in this city for years, the interest in it undoubtedly having been augmented by the four-cornered contest for Mayor.

It was announced by Hon. John H. Senter, the chairman of the caucus, that a total of 1050 votes was cast on the first ballot for Mayor and that it was necessary to secure 521 in order to bring about a choice. This ballot resulted in 196 for Fred L. Laird, 356 for F. R. Dawley, 376 for T. E. Callahan and 102 for M. W. Wheelock, with the remaining ten scattering.

There were 954 votes cast on the second ballot for Mayor and Laird having withdrawn, the contest was narrowed down to Dawley, Callahan and Wheelock. The present Mayor leading with 468, Callahan following with 447, Wheelock trailing with 23 and a scattering vote of four.

Dawley and Callahan were alone in the third ballot, 913 votes having been cast, of which Dawley received 481 and 432 went to Callahan.

There were two candidates for Alders F. E. Grout and L. H. Pollard, 628 votes having been cast. Chairman Senter announced that 315 would constitute a choice and G. L. Lackey having withdrawn, F. E. Grout had a lead of 20 votes over L. H. Pollard, the vote standing 264 to 244.

Aside from the contest for the Mayor's chair interest centered in the fight friendly by the way, for grand jury for which office B. E. Bailey and F. E. Gleason were candidates. Chairman Senter announced that a total of 484 votes had been cast for the candidates and that Mr. Gleason had received 398 votes as against 106 for Mr. Bailey.

Nothing but the best of feeling prevailed throughout, the candidates all entering into the spirit of the campaign with nothing if not a neighborly feeling.

The balloting began at 8:15 and continued until about 12:30, the followers and workers for the various candidates being busily engaged meanwhile in either sending for absent voters, or laboring to keep some lukewarm and seemingly uninterested ones in the hall, as many left the Armory after the first two ballots were taken. While the contest for Mayor overshadowed the other fights for the two other minor offices, yet the adherents of the candidates for the lower offices were very much in evidence, and their work was conspicuous.

F. R. Dawley, although probably not intending to do so, when he got upon his feet, was forced by circumstances to place his own name in nomination, and he was followed by Martin McKenna, who placed the name of T. E. Callahan in nomination. Fred Blanchard then nomi-

ed F. L. Laird and Martin Wheelock's name was placed before the voters by C. A. G. Jackson.

As usual, Thomas H. Corry was the man of the hour, distributing his ever present handbills advocating himself in no uncertain terms for the office of Mayor and denouncing the present city officials generally for what he considered their rank incapacity. By the way, it may be mentioned that the vote received by Mr. Corry at the ballot boxes was not a source of anxiety to the supporters of the other candidates.

C. V. CONDUCTOR KILLED.

Frightfully Mangled in Mysterious
Manner in St. Albans Yard.

St. Albans, Feb. 21.—Frightfully mangled, the body of James E. Bashaw, aged 25 years, a conductor on the Central Vermont railroad, was found at 2:59 this morning by Yardmaster George Pierre at the cross-over switch just north of the passenger station and opposite the engine house. How Bashaw met his death is not known as there was no eye witness, and it will probably always be shrouded in mystery. The body was found a short time after the conductor was last seen alive by William Burt of switcher 48, as he started to walk from the engine house to the station where it is presumed he was going for his orders.

Bashaw was called out to run a plow which was to keep the tracks open from the drifting snow. After making a short trip north he returned to turn his plow and start south. He asked Burt if he could turn the plow as he wished to go to the caboose to see one of his brakemen. The request was granted and Bashaw returned shortly after and thanked Burt for what he had done. He then started for the depot but before he had gone many feet he was overtaken, it is supposed by the switcher, and killed.

REGISTERED CATTLE INFECTED.

Green Mountain Stock Farm Animals
Tested For Tuberculosis.

Randolph, Feb. 21.—Ninety-seven head of cattle have just been tested on the Green Mountain Stock Farm, which has long been famous for its herd of registered Jerseys. The testing was done by the local veterinary, Dr. E. H. Stearns assisted by Dr. George Stevens of White River Junction, and State Cattle Commissioner F. L. Davis of White River Junction was also present. C. F. Moulton proprietor of the Stock Farm, was represented in the test by Dr. Edwin Moore of Albany, N. Y. With the exception of nine calves and one yoke of oxen the latter lately purchased, every one of the herd responded to this test their temperatures running from

101 normal as high as 106 and 107, while a temperature of 104 is sufficient to condemn an animal. H. M. Gaylord was asked to appraise the cattle but after some discussion, it was decided to leave the question of whether the herd should be slaughtered or put in quarantine, to settlement by the Governor and Attorney-General of the State. This farm has been a breeding place for high grade stock and, for that reason has been a great source of contagion to the dairies roundabout since tuberculosis appeared in its herd.

John Bingham has had 39 head tested and 11 of them were condemned and will be shipped today to the rendering plant at Burlington.

U. S. COURT CONVENES TODAY.

First Session to Be Held in the New
Federal Building.

Burlington, Feb. 21.—The February term of the United States Court will convene at Burlington tomorrow at ten o'clock for the first time that court has been held in the court room since the completion of the new Federal building, one of the handsomest courtrooms in the State. The grand and petit jurors will be called and sworn tomorrow and the docket is read. The term will probably be short.

WORKING AT STATE HOUSE.

Preliminary Preparations for Installing
New Ventilation System.

The work on the contract for the ventilation of the State House, which was awarded to the G. S. Blodgett Company of Burlington last Thursday was started on Monday morning three men from the headquarters of the firm at Burlington starting on J. J. Raine the engineer in charge of the work was on the scene and stated, that his men would simply prepare and lay out the part of the building on which the work will first be started, leaving it to the artisans and fitters who will arrive in about ten days to install the flues etc.

Sergeant-at-Arms Charles H. Ferrin has had a force of men busy the past few days, in fact since the contract was awarded ripping up the carpets and otherwise making it easier for the workmen when they arrive. The carpets of the upper hall have already been taken up and Mr. Ferrin will have the covering of the House chamber and the Senate removed some time this week or as soon as these halls can be dismantled of their furniture. Mr. Raine left for Boston yesterday afternoon where he will make arrangements for the shipment of the equipment needed in the installation of the ventilation, heating and plumbing of the building.

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in the Whole Field."

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